

## ABSTRACT

A novel and useful mechanism for optical ring networks providing concentrator redundancy in the event of a failure of a concentrator. The nodes in a network are connected to dual concentrators to form bi-directional dual counter-rotating optical rings. The failure of one of the concentrators is detected and the internal connections of the surviving concentrator are reconfigured to form a single ring that provides an alternate communication path thus preventing the collapse of the ring. Reliability of optical rings is improved by enabling the ring to continue to function in the event of a concentrator failure.

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